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**Office of University Communications**

**CONTACT:** Nikolaos Johnson, Assistant Director, Media Relations, 909-621-8396

**San Manuel Office of Public Affairs**

**CONTACT:** Kenneth Shoji, San Manuel Office of Public Affairs, 909-754-0298

**Claremont Graduate University To Receive \$3 Million for Unique  
Education Program  
San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians Establishes Tribal  
Administration Certificate Program**

The San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians has provided a gift of \$3 million to Claremont Graduate University for a program of study on historic and current events, governmental policies and laws that impact Indian tribal governments. The San Manuel Tribal Administration Certificate Program is designed to provide a comprehensive professional development center for tribal government employees. It is a unique program for higher education in the nation.

"This is an important and exciting undertaking for the tribe," stated Henry Duro, San Manuel tribal chairman. "For years we have discussed various ways of providing our employees with an opportunity to learn more about tribal governments as distinct and unique entities. This partnership with Claremont Graduate University will result in tribes being stronger employers and governments because our employees will better understand the nature of Indian tribes."

The endowment gift recognizes the successful pilot program developed by Claremont last year. The result of that trial was overwhelmingly positive from the tribe's perspective.

Claremont President Robert Klitgaard underscored the value of the relationship with the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians.

"This gift solidifies a remarkable and vital partnership," Klitgaard said. "San Manuel and Claremont will expand our work together to create new opportunities for sovereignty to express itself fully and effectively."

Claremont's program of study continues the tribal government's emphasis on nation building. This one-of-a-kind program offers tribal government employees the unique educational environment of an all-graduate university that is internationally

recognized for its excellence and human scale. This program is designed to strengthen the tribe's understanding of the myriad of complex laws, rules, regulations, and policies that apply to tribal governments in today's environment. Additionally, the program will emphasize the unique status of Indian tribes and tribal government sovereignty.

"There is no entity in the world like an Indian tribe," said Deron Marquez, former chairman of the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians and Claremont Doctoral candidate. "Tribal governments will make progress by providing as much information and education as possible about the unique nature of Indian tribes and their governments. This will be a program with a central focus to provide that understanding."

According to the California Employment Development Department (EDD), tribal governments in the state employ thousands of individuals in a variety of job classifications and in 2006 created an estimated \$200,000,000 in wages. This is attributable to Indian nations hiring tribal government employees to help expanding their economies, build and improve infrastructure and expanding social services.

### **About Claremont Graduate University**

Founded in 1925, Claremont Graduate University is an independent institution devoted entirely to graduate research and study. Internationally recognized for its excellence in research and teaching in a human-scaled environment, Claremont awards masters and doctoral degrees in 22 disciplines across its eight schools. As a member of the prestigious consortium of The Claremont Colleges, it is dedicated to diversity in study across the traditional discipline boundaries. Claremont Graduate University strives to seek practical solutions for the complex problems plaguing our world.

### **About the San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians**

The San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. The Serrano Indians are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys and mountains who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as sovereign nation with the right of self-government. Since time immemorial, the San Manuel tribal community has endured change and hardship. Amidst these challenges the tribe continued to maintain its unique form of governance. Like other governments it seeks to provide a better quality of life for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services and promoting social, economic and cultural development. Today San Manuel tribal government oversees many governmental units including the departments of fire, public safety, education and environment.

Jagels Building 165 E. Tenth Street Claremont, California 91711-6186  
Tel: 909.621-8396 Fax: 909.621.8029  
www.cgu.edu Nikolaos.johnson@cgu.edu